to attend office at 7 o'clock in the morning and that they are not able to leave before 7 or 8 P. M. The pay allowed to them, compared to the other branches of the service is very low. I submit that their pay is entitled to an early revision.

HEAD IX (B)

THE JAILS.

This institution during the last 5 years has cost the State amounts varying between Rs. 70,000 to Rs. one lakh. The receipts from the Department have varied between Rs. 9,000 and Rs. 12,000. I do not mean that the jails should be thought of as a source of revenue to the State. But attempts should be made to make it at least self-supporting. The industrial side of the Department could be developed on a larger scale which while adding to the receipts, will enable Government to send out the inmates of the jail as a better type of people. Not only would they not give further trouble to the society, but they would be in a position to add to the wealth of the country. The jail manufactures ought to be expanded considerably so that the income derived therefrom may pay for the upkeep of the jail.

HEAD XI.

STATIONERY.

The expenditure on this head is mentioned as Rs. 2,05,800. The system of giving contract for stationery to foreign firms should be abolished. I know that there are people in Travancore, who are willing, to take up the work and in addition, give security for the proper discharge of their responsibility.

HEAD XVI.

EDUCATION.

The contribution towards education should be substantially increased. The grant towards this Department for the next year is Rs. 29,60,000, while the Government hope to realise Rs. 5,90,000. The net cost will then be only Rs. 23 and odd lakhs. In spite of the proudly proclaimed educational advancement, the percentage of literacy is still low. In the matter of primary or elementary education, the policy of Government for the last few years, has been to induce people to put up buildings and to furnish the same and for Government to appoint teachers. Of late, this practice has been extended to High School or Secondary education also. The cost of books to be purchased by a lad learning in Classes I to IV of a Vernacular School at the present day is several times what it was formerly. A Text Book Committee which has not so much feelings for the condition of the ryot as for patronage to their votaries comes out with a long string of books and the poor ryot who is not able to make a living out of his slender income has to pay for these books. Under these conditions, to speak of elementary education being made free in the country is a farce and a mockery. Another object for which I would recommend large grants is a system of scholarships. Young men of parts should be sent to Europe and America for higher studies in Sciences and Arts so that a few years hence we shall have plenty of men in our country to take up their place as professors in all the important subjects. Professors of the type of a Rangaswamy Aiyangar or Ramanathan are rare even in British India and it will be more difficult still to get them to go over here. In the interests of higher education, a scheme should be formulated with as little delay as possible; so that an efficient educational service for the future may be provided. Funds should also be allotted to institute chairs for the teaching of Natural Sciences and Philosophy, in the Arts College and to improve all round the existing branches of studies.

HEAD XVII.

AGRICULTURE.

The allotment to this Department is insufficient. Nearly 66 per cent. of the people depend on agriculture for their living. Expansion of agriculture, both extensively and intensively, should be made. The G. O. dated 12th June 1920 regarding this question, is unsatisfactory. The experiment of intensive cultivation of *punja* lands has proved successful and hence a bolder scheme of reform should be undertaken at an early date. Owners of all lands (*punja*) which are now cultivated only once in two years should be encouraged, by a system of loans, to cultivate them every year. Similarly, all available lands in and around forests should be thrown open for paddy cultivation. In both these ways the output of paddy every year should be increased several fold. During the last 5 years the value of rice and paddy imported into Travancore has varied between Rs. one crore and seventy lakhs and Rs. one crore and eighty-four lakhs which shows that the country is greatly dependent on foreign supply for its food. The position of the average ryot in Travancore cannot be more effectively described than

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